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## IN THE Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1978

No. 78-615

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS AND AEROSPACE WORKERS, AFL-CIO,

Petitioner,

v.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD, Respondent,

and

BOEING COMPANY,

Intervenor.

## REPLY TO BRIEF FOR THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD IN OPPOSITION

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Attorneys for Petitioner

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1. The Board's brief asserts, by sheer *ipse dixit*, p. 9, that the *Burns* exception should not be construed as requiring a prospective employer to opt between "planning" to retain his predecessor's workforce, on the one hand, and unilaterally reducing their wages without consulting their elected bargaining agent, on the other. But counsel's failure even to suggest any rational alternative confirms the validity, rationality and inevitability of our construction.

- 2. The Board's brief also unjustifiably attempts to convey the impression, pp. 2-3, that Boeing was willing to recognize and bargain with the IAM about initial terms and conditions of employment in the support services unit. But that suggestion flies in the face of the Board's finding (Pet. App. 78a), affirmed below (Pet. App. 6a), that Boeing adamantly conditioned recognition upon its legally erroneous "accretion" theory, which the Administrative Law Judge and the Board rejected (Pet. for Cert. 4 n.3), thereby frustrating the IAM's right to be consulted before wages and other terms of initial employment of incumbents would be fixed.
- 3. Contrary to Board counsel's implication, p. 3, the feasibility of a safety value alternative, staffing with outsiders, does not negate but rather confirms the existence of the preferred primary plan to retain.

Respectfully submitted,

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